

Decodable Texts: Long Vowel Teams: ow (cow)

"This nonfiction story focuses on the 'ow' sound as in 'cow.' Watch for words like 'vowel,' 'how,' and 'now' as you learn about letters and sounds!"



What Is a Vowel?

A vowel is a letter that helps us build words and sounds.

The vowels are A, E, I, O, and U.

We use vowels in every word we speak and write.

Without vowels, we could not say "how," "now," or "brown."

Vowels give words the power to flow and be read aloud.

Now you know why vowels matter so much!

After reading the story, have your child point to and slowly sound out each practice word.

vowel

how

now

brown

power



Name: _____

What Is a Vowel?

1. What are the vowels?

- A. A, E, I, O, U
- B. B, C, D, F, G
- C. M, N, T, R, L
- D. Q, X, Z, V, Y

2. Why are vowels important?

- A. They are used in coloring
- B. They make songs louder
- C. They help build words and sounds
- D. They make books bigger

3. Fill in the blank:

Without vowels, we could not say "how," "now," or "_____."

4. Why can't we make words or sentences without vowels?

5. What are some of your favorite words that use "ow" like in "cow"?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: *ow* as in "cow" (/ow/ sound)

Genre: *Nonfiction – Phonics / Language Concepts*

High-Frequency Words: *you, why, now, how, every*

Before Reading

1. This story includes "ow" words like *vowel, how, now, brown, power, and aloud*.
 2. Do you know the vowels in the alphabet?
 3. Why do you think vowels are part of every word?
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During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support: Sounding Out Support:** Point out the /ow/ sound in "ow" words like *now* and *how*, and stretch it as you read. Explain how "vowel" also contains the same sound.
 2. Watch for "ow" words that show why vowels are important.
 3. What does the story say vowels help us do?
 4. Read the last line like you're explaining a fun secret to a friend.
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After Reading

1. Retell what vowels are and why we need them.
 2. What are some words you use every day that need vowels to work?
 3. Can you write a short word using an "ow" sound from this story?
 4. Skill Check: Highlight six "ow" words in the passage.
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Read it again with an upbeat, teaching voice—like you're helping someone else learn something cool!
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Activity Idea

Draw the five vowels and some "ow" words that use them like *how, now, vowel, aloud, power, or brown*. Write one sentence about how vowels help words come alive.

Coaching Tip

Build phonics and word awareness by showing how sounds and letters work together—every vowel unlocks new reading power!

